

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 031338

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TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031338

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPRS, YO (BENTLEY, GLORIA LIND; WATERMAN,

-- ANN)

SUBJECT: REPORTED DETENTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS

REF: STATE 30759

1. IN FEBRUARY 11 TELEPHONE CALLS TO HER HUSBAND IN GREATER CHICAGO AND A PERSONAL FRIEND IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WHO IS RETIRED USG EMPLOYEE, MRS. BENTLEY REPORTEDLY INDICATED THAT SHE AND MRS. WATERMAN WERE DETAINED BECAUSE MRS. WATERMAN MAILED (OR ATTEMPTED TO MAIL) 250 LETTERS FOR A FRIEND IN CHICAGO. LETTERS ALLEGEDLY CONTAINED MATERIAL GIVEN TO MRS. WATERMAN BY "THE PERSON WHO WAS ACCUSED OF BLOWING UP THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON SEVERAL YEARS AGO." MRS. BENTLEY REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED CONTENTS OF LETTERS AS "BAD FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE U.S. AND YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENTS."

2. SENATOR PERCY IS INTERESTED IN CASE. FACT THAT MRS. BENTLEY WAS WELL-KNOWN U.S. OPERA PERFORMER -- UNDER NAME GLORIA LIND -- MAY STIMULATE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AND
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PAGE 02 STATE 031338

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN CASE.

3. FYI -- MRS. BENTLEY GAVE MR. BENTLEY THE NAMES OF TWO SERBIAN-AMERICANS FROM CHICAGO SHE AND MRS. WATERMAN HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH. NAMES SOUNDED LIKE KASIKOVIC AND KAJEVIC, TWO WELL-KNOWN ANTI-GOY SERBIAN MONARCHIST EMIGRES WHO HAVE BEEN SUSPECTED OF EXTREMIST ACTIVITY.

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